

An exploration of reminiscence and post-war European immigrants living in a multicultural aged-care setting in Australia

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Key Words:

European immigrants, life story

Research aim:

This study aims to shed light on what participants feel about life stories, and the prospect of involvement in the documentation of their life story in order to provide insight and understanding for optimum programme facilitation and better resident care.

Results/Conclusion:

Three main themes emerged: diminution of guilt, social sharing - common bonds and, the urge to 'feel' the past to 'fill' the present. It is apparent that aged survivors of war, and displacement to a new country, feel residual guilt regarding the leaving of their homeland. The prospect of documenting their life stories offers an opportunity to provide an explanation for their decision. Immersion in life stories allows the re-experiencing and sharing of past emotions and sensations. Engagement in occupational reminiscence enhances understanding a person's lived life experience, which adds meaning to one's life

Implications:

Cultural Group(s):

European immigrants

Location of study:

Age group:

Number included in study:

4

Type of participants:

aged-care setting

Research approach:

Qualitative (phenomenological)

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: